

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : Not yet assigned  
Applicant : HIROSHI SAKAMOTO, et al.  
Filed : February 20, 2004  
Docket No. : 056208.53268US  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Car Control Apparatus and Control Method

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The relevance of these references to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background and Summary of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

An English abstract and a U.S. counterpart of Japanese Patent No. 2001-213201 is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. Furthermore, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

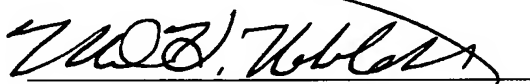
Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and therefore no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 056208.53268US).

Respectfully submitted,

February 20, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. F. McKeown', written over a horizontal line.

James F. McKeown  
Registration No. 25,406  
Mark H. Neblett  
Registration No. 42,028

CROWELL & MORING LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844  
JFM:MHN:rde (305296)

FORM PTO-1449    U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Attorney Docket No. 056208.53268US	Serial No.
	Applicant:    Hiroshi SAKAMOTO et al.	
	Filing Date February 20, 2004	Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub- Class	TRANSLATION	
							Yes	No
	AK	2001-213201	7/8/01				Abstract	
	AL							
	A M							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER:    Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.	